

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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44

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05 /036 W

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O 221857Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6243

WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS WARSAW 4706

DEPT FOR A/O AND WHITE HOUSE FOR ADVANCE OFFICE

AND NORMAL EUROPEAN TRIP DISTRIBUTION

BONN FOR PREADVANCE TEAM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PL(GERALD R FORD)

SUBJECT: COLOR NOTES

REF: WARSAW 4685

1. THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING BEGAN ON APRIL 19, 1943,
NOT 1942. THERE FOLLOWS A COLOR NOTE ON THE MONUMENT TO THE
DEFENDERS OF WARSAW, WHERE A WREATH-LAYING IS PLANNED.

THE MONUMENT TO THE DEFENDERS OF WARSAW

ACROSS THE OPERA PLACE FROM THE GRAND OPERA AND
BALLET THEATER IS THE MONUMENT TO THE HEROS OF WARSAW,
POPULARLY KNOWN AS THE "NIKE". DESIGNED AND SCULPTURED
BY M. KONIECZNY, THE MONUMENT WAS UNVEILED IN 1964.
DEDICATED TO ALL THOSE WHO FELL IN THE DEFENSE OF WARSAW
IN THE YEARS 1939-1945, THIS MONUMENT IS MORE GENERALLY
THOUGHT OF AS A TRIBUTE TO THE 250,000 WHO PERISHED
DURING THE WARSAW UPRISING WHEN FOR OVER TWO MONTHS
(AUGUST-OCTOBER 1944) THE POORLY-EQUIPPED BUT SPIRITED
POLISH UNDERGROUND HOME ARMY TIED DOWN 40,000 SUPERBLY-
EQUIPPED GERMAN TROOPS CAST IN BRONZE, AND HOLDING A
SWORD IN A DEFIANT FIGHTING POSITION, THE NIKE SYMBOLIZES THE
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UNYIELDING FIGHTING SPIRIT TYPICAL OF WARSAW DURING THE

SECOND WORLD WAR AND IS POPULARLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE SWORD-
WIELDING MERMAID WHICH IS THE SYMBOL OF WARSAW.
DAVIES

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NNN

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